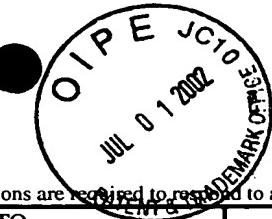


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]



PTO/SB08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/831,480
Confirmation Number	5662
Filing Date	May 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	Policicchio et al.
Group Art Unit	1744
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	7368

SHEET

1 of 1

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
HL		3,656,202		Paton	4/18/1972	RECEIVED
HL		5,094,559		Rivera et al.	3/10/1992	
HL		5,098,621		Hermann	3/24/1992	

JUL 8, 2002

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TC 1700

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
HL		CA 1099862		Thompson	4/28/1981		
		DE 298 02 009	U1	Schwinning	7/9/1998		
		EP 0 358 844	A2	Casademunt et al.	3/21/1990		
		EP 0 399495	A1	Johnson et al.	11/28/1990		
		FR 2 575 058		Berthod et al.	12/19/1985		
HL		WO 94/26834		Corzani	11/24/1994		
HL		WO 98/42246		Policicchio et al.	10/1/1998		

### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>6</sup>

EXAMINER *Glynn Le*

DATE CONSIDERED

01-27-04

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.